INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1219

DATE: February 25, 2013

TO: Iowa Medicaid Physicians, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners,

Maternal Health Centers, Screening Centers, Clinics and Hospitals

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

SUBJECT: Implementing NCCI PTP Edits for Immunization Administration and

Preventive E&M Service Codes

EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2013

On January 1, 2013, new Procedure-to-Procedure (PTP) edits were implemented in the Medicare and Medicaid National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI). This editing paired the immunization administration codes (CPT codes 90460 – 90474) as "column one" codes with preventive medicine Evaluation and Management (E&M) service codes (CPT codes 99381 – 99397) as "column two" codes (see table 1, below). The edits stop inappropriate payment of a preventive medicine E&M service, if it is not significant or separately identifiable in certain cases, such as a return to the physician's office for an immunization on a day other than the day of a comprehensive preventive E&M service. Similar edits have been present in the NCCI program for a number of years.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allowed states to deactivate these edits for the first quarter of 2013, retroactive to January 1, 2013, so that providers had time to consider the editing and related claim submissions. Based on the CMS allowance, the IME has deactivated the edits. Any affected claims will be reprocessed by the second pay cycle in March. The editing will be activated again for claims bearing dates of service on and after April 1, 2013.

The use of modifier 25: Consistent with the general NCCI policy approach for the CPT instruction around these codes, the new edits are established to permit payment of both codes, if a significant, separately identifiable E&M service is provided on the same day as an administration code and a PTP associated modifier (i.e., modifier 25) is appended to the E&M code. All of the edits have a Correct Coding Modifier Indicator (CCMI) of "1", which permits the edit to be bypassed based on a correctly appended modifier. Providers should ensure they report E&M codes with immunization administration codes only if the E&M service is significant and separately identifiable and append modifier 25 with an E&M service code in order to bypass the PTP edits as appropriate.

Questions relating to this Informational Letter may be directed to the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally at 515-256-4609 or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.

Table 1: Column one Codes are edited against Column two

COL2
99381
99382
99383
99384
99385
99386
99387
99391
99392
99393
99394
99395
99396
99397
99381
99382
99383
99384
99385
99386
99387
99391
99392
99393
99394
99395
99396
99397

COL1	COL2
90471	99381
90471	99382
90471	99383
90471	99384
90471	99385
90471	99386
90471	99387
90471	99391
90471	99392
90471	99393
90471	99394
90471	99395
90471	99396
90471	99397
90472	99381
90472	99382
90472	99383
90472	99384
90472	99385
90472	99386
90472	99387
90472	99391
90472	99392
90472	99393
90472	99394
90472	99395
90472	99396
90472	99397

COL1	COL2
90473	99381
90473	99382
90473	99383
90473	99384
90473	99385
90473	99386
90473	99387
90473	99391
90473	99392
90473	99393
90473	99394
90473	99395
90473	99396
90473	99397
90474	99381
90474	99382
90474	99383
90474	99384
90474	99385
90474	99386
90474	99387
90474	99391
90474	99392
90474	99393
90474	99394
90474	99395
90474	99396
90474	99397

The column two code is denied if a column one code is also on the claim.